



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1307.4 - South Australian Economic Indicators, Feb 2005

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 01/02/2005

## Summary

### Main Features

#### ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication provides an up-to-date overview of the South Australian economy and contrasts the state's performance with that of the Australian economy. It provides details of movements in a range of economic and social indicators.

#### OVERVIEW

The data in this overview are presented in trend terms, unless otherwise stated.

Included in this overview are Statistical Summary tables showing comparisons between South Australia and Australia for a variety of economic and social indicators. Also included is a State Summary, showing the performance of all states and territories for selected indicators.

Further detail on all the indicators shown below can be obtained by accessing the latest data cube attached to this publication. This data cube is available within the **Related Links** section on this page.

#### REVIEW OF THIS PUBLICATION

The production of the South Australian Economic Indicators (SAEI) publication is currently under review. Aspects of this publication to be reviewed include the format, frequency of release and data content. Comments and suggestions regarding potential changes are invited from interested parties.

Please direct feedback to Kirsten Hastwell on ph:(08) 8237 7369 or alternatively e-mail <kirsten.hastwell@abs.gov.au>.

#### IMPORTANT CHANGES

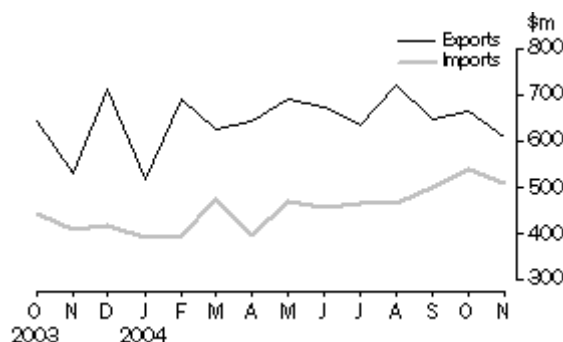
The wage cost index series has been renamed the wage price index series as from September quarter 2004, and has been re-based from September quarter 1997 to the financial year 2003-2004 = 100.0. The quarterly Wage Cost Index publication, now renamed Labour Price Index, has retained its catalogue number (6345.0) but will include annual non-wage costs, such as annual and public holiday leave, superannuation, workers' compensation and payroll tax. Further information about the new price index series is available through **Labour Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2004, cat. no. 6351.0.55.001.**

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The value of South Australian merchandise exports (in original terms) for the month of November 2004 was \$606.6m. This was a decrease of 8.8% from the previous month and 13.6% more than the value of exports in November 2003 (\$533.8m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports (in original terms) for November 2004 was \$510.4m. This was a decrease of 5.8% from the \$541.9m recorded in October 2004, but 25.5% more than the November 2003 figure of \$406.8m.

### Merchandise Exports and Imports

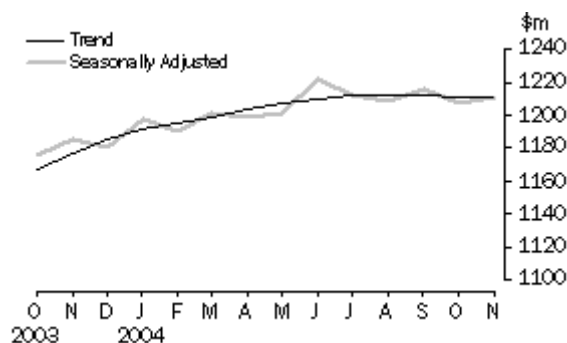


- See International Merchandise Imports, Australia (Timeseries, cat. no. 5439.0), International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (cat. no. 5368.0)

## CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

Total retail turnover decreased 0.1% from October 2004 (\$1,211.5m) to \$1,210.5m in November 2004. This was 2.8% more than the figure recorded for total retail turnover in November 2003 (\$1,177.1m).

### Retail Turnover



- See Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

December 2004 saw a total of 5,157 new motor vehicle sales - a decrease of 1.4% on the previous month. The December 2004 figure is 2.3% lower than the new vehicles sales recorded in December 2003 (5,277).

### New Motor Vehicle Sales

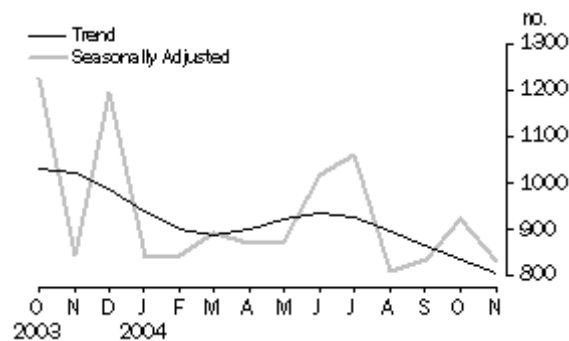


- See Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0)

## HOUSING

In November 2004, the estimated total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia was 804, 3.5% lower than in October 2004 (833) and also 21.3% lower than the estimated total approved in November 2003 (1,021).

### Dwelling Units Approved

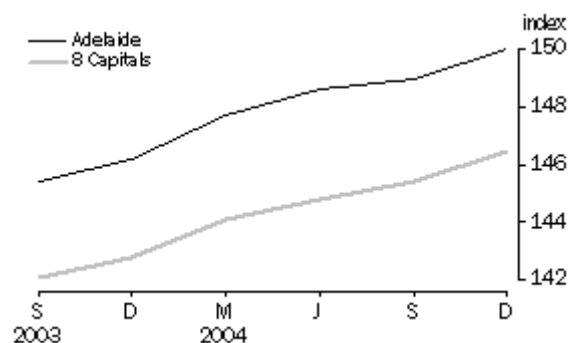


See Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index in Adelaide for the December quarter 2004 was 150.0, an increase of 2.6% on the level recorded for the same period in 2003 and up 0.7% on the September quarter 2004.

### Consumer Price Index

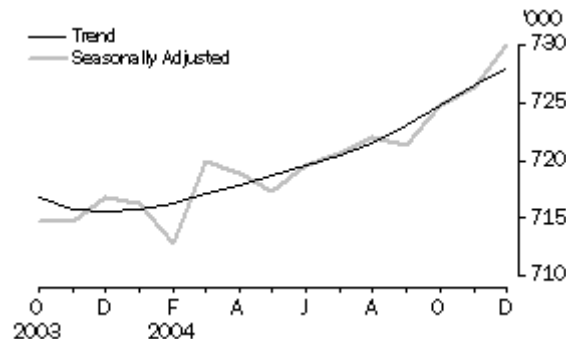


- See Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

## LABOUR FORCE AND DEMOGRAPHYY

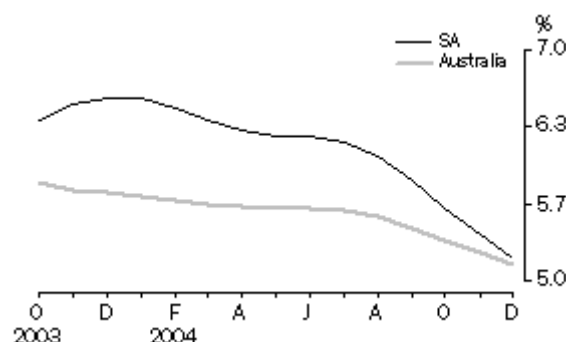
The trend estimate of employed persons in South Australia was 727,900 in December 2004, higher than in December 2003 (715,500). The total number of persons employed full-time in South Australia was 501,500 in December 2004, compared with the December 2003 estimate of 490,100.

### Employed Persons



The trend estimate of the unemployment rate for South Australia was 5.2% in December 2004, lower than in December 2003 (6.6%). The trend estimate of the participation rate in South Australia was 61.3% in December 2004, slightly lower than in December 2003 (61.6%).

### Unemployment Rate - Trend



- See Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

## FINANCIAL MARKETS

The value of secured housing finance commitments for owner occupation was \$677.3m in November 2004. This was an increase of 1.9% from the previous month and 5.8% more than the value of commitments in November 2003 (\$640.1m).

### Secured Housing Finance Commitments (a)



Current prices original (\$m)	Nov 04	1,252.5	1.9	1.9	16,999.1	1.2	2.0	7.4	3
Current prices trend (\$m)	Nov 04	1,210.5	-0.1	2.8	16,549.8	-0.1	3.2	7.3	3
Chain volume measures original (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	3,496.9	0.8	5.7	48,077.6	2.0	5.8	7.3	3
New motor vehicle sales									
Original (no.)	Dec 04	4,998	-8.3	-7.5	78,980	-6.3	1.5	6.3	4
Trend (no.)	Dec 04	5,157	-1.4	-2.3	79,632	-0.8	2.5	6.5	4
Private new capital expenditure									
Current prices original (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	860	-21.5	-11.4	12,903	-5.3	1.0	6.7	5
Current prices trend (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	982	1.4	-4.8	13,048	1.7	1.1	7.5	5
Private new capital expenditure (\$m)	2003-04	3,948	-1.4	..	51,247	0.9	..	7.6	5
Tourist accommodation takings (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	62.7	2.9	3.5	1,485.7	16.3	8.2	4.2	6
<b>Production</b>									
Dwelling unit approvals									
Original (no.)	Nov 04	903	1.9	8.5	13,139	1.7	-9.3	6.9	7
Trend (no.)	Nov 04	804	-3.5	-21.3	12,466	-2.1	-17.2	6.4	7
Dwelling units commenced (no.)	Sep qtr 04	2,434	-3.6	-4.3	42,532	1.8	-2.9	5.7	8
Value of non-residential building approvals- trend (\$m)	Nov 04	81.7	7.9	-31.9	1,479.7	-0.4	9.5	5.5	7777
Value of total building activity									
Commenced (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	659.4	-3.9	-5.7	13,936.9	3.2	8.2	4.7	8
Work done (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	827.1	9.2	23.2	14,713.1	4.5	14.7	5.6	8
Work yet to be done (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	1,162.0	-9.1	5.7	23,850.9	0.8	10.7	4.9	8
Value of engineering construction work done (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	377.7	-22.5	-14.1	7,224.8	-4.8	15.7	5.2	9
Manufacturing production									
Red meat trend (tonnes)	Sep qtr 04	51,349	-3.6	-8.4	775,926	0.6	6.4	6.6	10
Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum) (\$m)	Sep qtr 04	15.5	-1.3	66.7	251.1	4.0	40.2	6.2	11

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 2

Indicator	South Australia				Australia			
	Period	% change from		Number	% change from		SA as a % of Australia	Source index
		Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
Prices (a)								

CPI- All groups (index no.)	Dec qtr 04	150.0	0.7	2.6	146.5	0.8	2.6	..	12
Price index of materials used in house building (index no.)	Dec qtr 04	142.9	0.6	4.1	138.3	0.8	3.5	..	13
Price index of established houses (index no.)	Sep qtr 04	235.8	1.3	13.8	250.3	-0.7	8.2	..	14
Price index of project homes (index no.)	Sep qtr 04	169.5	0.0	5.5	160.3	1.2	6.0	..	14
<b>Labour force and demography</b>									
Population (resident at end qtr) ('000)	Jun qtr 04	1,534.3	0.1	0.5	20,111.3	0.2	1.2	7.6	15
Natural increase of the population ('000)	Jun qtr 04	1,559.0	-6.8	12.4	35,259.0	33.8	19.1	4.4	15
Labour Force Original ('000)	Dec 04	778.0	2.3	0.1	10,475.6	1.8	2.0	7.4	16
Trend ('000)	Dec 04	767.8	-0.0	0.2	10,342.3	0.2	2.0	7.4	16
Employed persons Original ('000)	Dec 04	739.2	2.1	1.8	9,947.1	1.6	2.7	7.4	16
Trend ('000)	Dec 04	727.9	0.2	1.7	9,810.5	0.3	2.6	7.4	16
Participation rate Original (b) (%)	Dec 04	62.1	1.3	-0.4	64.6	1.1	0.3	..	16
Trend (b) (%)	Dec 04	61.3	0.0	-0.3	63.8	0.1	0.3	..	16
Unemployment rate Original (b) (%)	Dec 04	5.0	0.2	-1.6	5.0	0.1	-0.7	..	16
Trend (b) (%)	Dec 04	5.2	-0.2	-1.4	5.1	-0.1	-0.7	..	16
Job vacancies ('000)	Nov 04	7.5	7.2	86.1	137.1	7.4	29.7	5.5	17
Industrial disputes ('000 working days lost)	Sep qtr 04	1.1	-26.7	-69.4	93.3	-39.5	-43.9	1.2	18
<b>Income</b>									
Average weekly earnings (full-time; ordinary time) Original (\$)	Aug qtr 04	895.00	2.2	3.6	962.90	1.4	3.6	..	19
Trend (\$)	Aug qtr 04	891.80	1.4	3.0	960.00	0.7	3.2	..	19
Labour price index (total hourly rate excluding bonuses) (c) (index no.)	Sep qtr 04	102.0	1.2	3.3	102.3	1.3	3.5	..	20
<b>Financial markets</b>									
Secured housing finance (d) Original (\$m)	Nov 04	766.4	25.4	17.8	11,393.3	13.4	7.0	6.7	21
Trend (\$m)	Nov 04	677.3	1.8	5.8	10,519.3	0.9	-0.4	6.4	21
Finance commitments Personal (\$m)	Nov 04	450.6	5.4	2.5	6,587.0	3.6	-2.9	6.8	22
Commercial (\$m)	Nov 04	1,179.0	15.3	27.0	25,809.0	2.5	8.5	4.6	22
Lease (\$m)	Nov 04	17.4	13.0	-1.1	519.0	5.1	-8.5	3.4	22
Interest rates (b) Banks - new housing loans (%)	Dec 04	..	..	..	7.05	0.0	0.0		23
Banks - business loans Small, medium businesses (e) (%)	Dec 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.0		23
Large business (%)	Dec 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.0		23

- (a) Base year of each index 1989-90 = 100.  
(b) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.  
(c) Base year of index 2003-04 = 100.  
(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.  
(e) Rate for business loans over \$50,000.

## STATE SUMMARY

Indicator	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Source index
SELECTED INDICATORS										
CPI- All groups(a) (index no.)	Dec qtr 04	147.3	145.3	148.0	150.0	143.3	146.7	141.1	146.3	12
Participation rate trend (%)	Dec 04	62.1	64.3	65.5	61.3	65.9	58.7	69.6	72.0	16
Unemployment rate trend (%)	Dec 04	5.1	5.8	4.7	5.2	4.4	5.9	6.5	4.2	16
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time) trend (\$)	Aug qtr 04	997.50	963.80	906.50	891.80	963.30	871.50	967.40	1,075.30	19
SELECTED INDICATORS PER HEAD OF POPULATION(b)										
State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c) (\$'000)	Jun qtr 04	10.4	10.4	9.9	9.6	10.5	8.8	13.9	17.7	1
Retail turnover Current prices original (\$)	Nov 04	856.0	823.1	858.9	816.4	868.5	744.9	809.7	970.6	3
Current prices trend (\$)	Nov 04	826.4	803.3	847.3	789.0	842.4	726.3	816.5	947.0	3
New motor vehicle sales trend (no. per '000 population)	Dec 04	3.7	4.3	4.3	3.4	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.7	4
Private new capital expenditure Current prices trend (\$)	Sep qtr 04	565.5	566.3	632.3	640.5	1,122.1	463.0	2,008.0	521.8	5
Dwelling unit approvals Original (no. per '000 population)	Nov 04	0.441	0.712	0.823	0.589	0.960	0.562	0.445	0.846	7
Trend (no. per '000 population)	Nov 04	0.426	0.689	0.851	0.543	0.954	0.475	0.560	0.250	7
Secured housing finance (d) (\$)	Nov 04	615.7	514.2	576.7	499.5	655.5	294.9	533.7	428.7	21
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD										
State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c)	Jun qtr 04	1.1	1.1	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.9	1
Retail turnover Current prices original	Nov 04	1.4	1.2	0.1	1.9	2.4	2.1	-5.0	0.9	3
Current prices trend	Nov 04	-0.2	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	3
New motor vehicle sales trend	Dec 04	-0.9	0.2	-1.2	-1.4	-1.2	-2.0	-1.2	-0.2	4



Private new capital expenditure										
Current prices trend (e)	Sep qtr 04	2.7	-1.1	4.4	1.4	0.3	10.9	-6.8	14.2	5
Dwelling unit approvals										
Original	Nov 04	3.6	-1.4	-0.6	1.9	-2.7	4.2	11.3	265.3	7
Trend	Nov 04	-4.5	-0.4	-0.4	-3.5	-2.1	2.2	-13.4	-16.0	7
CPI- All groups	Dec qtr 04	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.5	12
Participation rate trend (e)	Dec 04	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	16
Unemployment rate trend (e)	Dec 04	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	16
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults;ordinary time) trend	Aug qtr 04	0.4	0.7	1.4	1.4	0.8	2.1	1.6	0.4	19
Secured housing finance (d)	Nov 04	13.5	10.3	12.7	25.4	14.8	5.7	21.0	13.9	21

(a) Base year of index 1989-90=100.

(b) The latest quarterly estimate of Australian resident population has been used to calculate ratios for subsequent periods.

(c) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001-02.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(e) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

## SOURCE INDEX FOR STATISTICAL & STATE SUMMARY TABLES

- 1 Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0) - and ABS data available on request
- 2 International Trade in Goods and Services (cat. no. 5368.0) Quarterly and International Merchandise Imports (cat. no. 5349.0) Monthly. Further detail available on request and in the associated data cubes.
- 3 Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0) Monthly
- 4 Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0) Monthly
- 5 Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no.5625.0) Quarterly - and Ausstats data.
- 6 Tourist Accommodation, Australia (cat. no. 8635.0) Quarterly
- 7 Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0) Monthly
- 8 Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0) Quarterly
- 9 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8762.0) Quarterly
- 10 Livestock Products, Australia (cat. no. 7215.0) Quarterly - and ABS data available on request.
- 11 Actual and Expected Private Mineral Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0) Quarterly

- 12 Consumer Price Index (cat. no. 6401.0) Quarterly
- 13 Producer Price Indexes, Australia (cat. no. 6427.0) Quarterly
- 14 House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (cat. no. 6416.0) Quarterly
- 15 Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0) Quarterly
- 16 Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) Monthly
- 17 Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0) Quarterly
- 18 Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0) Monthly
- 19 Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0) Quarterly
- 20 Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0) Quarterly
- 21 Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0) Monthly
- 22 Lending Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5671.0) Monthly - and ABS data available on request.
- 23 Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin

## About this Release

### ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Provides an up-to-date overview of what has been happening in the South Australian economy and contrasts the state's performance with that of the Australian economy. Provides details of movements in a range of economic indicators and also contains time series information.

Changing to electronic format, from the Feb 2004 release.